

Appendix A

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¹ Correspondence is generally presented in chronological order. The IDOT's responses to correspondence it received from individuals is placed immediately following the letter or note received irrespective of the date of the response.

**Public Hearing
Macomb Area Study
US 67, IL 336, US 136**



The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will hold an open house public hearing to present the proposed improvements for the Macomb Area Study. The route, which is proposed to be constructed as a four-lane, divided highway bypassing the city of Macomb, will extend from US 136 on the west edge of the city to south of US 136 on the east edge, tying back into US 67 north of Hospital Road. All interested persons are invited to attend and participate in the hearing.

When?
Tuesday, December 16, 2003
4:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m.

Where?
VFW Post 1921
1200 E. Jefferson Street
Macomb, IL.

The Department has initiated "Corridor Protection" activities in accordance with Illinois Compiled Statutes, 605 ILCS 54-519 of the Illinois Highway Code. This action will consist of a procedure whereby the public is informed of the location and approximate right-of-way required for the project so that costly and conflicting development of the land involved may be prevented. The hearing will allow the public an opportunity to provide comment on the "Corridor Protection" plan.

You may attend any time during the 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. period. NO FORMAL PRESENTATION WILL BE GIVEN. IDOT personnel will be available to answer questions and receive comments about the proposed project. Property acquisition and relocation assistance information will also be available. Information available at the hearing includes aerial photos and other exhibits showing the proposed improvements, a draft of the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and the project's Location Design Report. These reports can be reviewed before and after the hearing at the following local libraries:

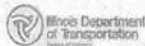
Macomb Public Library
235 S. Lafayette St.
Macomb, IL.

WU, Malpass Library
Western Ave.
Macomb, IL.

The draft EIS can also be reviewed at IDOT's website (www.idot.state.il.us/desenv/evn.html). You are invited to submit written comments about the project. All written comments received within 10 days after the hearing will become part of the official hearing record.

The meeting room is accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons with a disability needing special accommodations or additional information should contact the individual listed below 5 days prior to the hearing. The contact may be by telephone, in writing, by fax or by telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD).

Eric Therkildsen
Illinois Department of Transportation
401 Main
Peoria, IL 61602
Phone: 309/671-3333 TDD: 309/671-3450
Fax: 309/671-3488



CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
)ss.
County of McDonough

This is to certify that a printed notice, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in the MACOMB JOURNAL one times, being once each week for one successive weeks, the first publication of said notice being in the issue of said paper dated and issued on the 11th day of December, A.D., 2003, and the last publication of said notice being in the issue of said paper dated and issued on the 16th day of December, A.D., 2003.

That said MACOMB JOURNAL is a secular paper published in the city of Macomb, McDonough County, Illinois, and has been regularly published in said city of Macomb for at least six months immediately prior to the said first publication of said notice; that the said MACOMB JOURNAL is published by Liberty Group Publishing, successor August 1, 1998 to Newspaper Holdings, Inc.; that the MACOMB JOURNAL was regularly published daily, except Saturday, for at least six months prior to August 1, 1998 by Newspaper Holdings, Inc.; and since August 1, 1998 the MACOMB JOURNAL has been regularly published by Liberty Group Publishing.

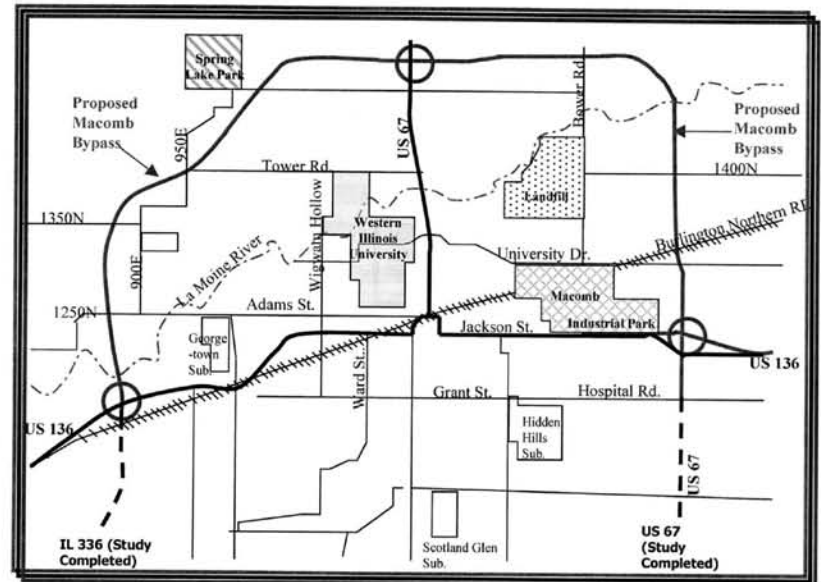
That by resolution of the Board of Directors of Liberty Group Publishing, Michael Lee is duly authorized to make this certificate for and on behalf of Liberty Group Publishing.

By Michael Lee
its Duty Authorized Agent.

Printer's Fee \$ 296.00

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day

of December, 2003.



**OPEN HOUSE
CORRIDOR PROTECTION &
DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING
MACOMB BYPASS**

December 16, 2003
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
VFW Post 1921
1200 E. Jefferson Street
Macomb, IL

About Tonight's Hearing

Welcome to this public hearing for the Macomb Bypass Study.

Staff members from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and their consultants are here to discuss the preferred location for the Macomb Bypass.

The meeting is being held in an open house format to allow informal discussion between the public and the study staff members. We invite you to view the displays and share your comments with members of the study team.

A court reporter is available tonight to record your statement. You may also write your concerns on the enclosed comment form and leave it in the comment box or mail the form to IDOT after you leave the meeting. All written comments received within 10 days after the hearing will be included in the official project record.

Also available are the Draft Design Report and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Please feel free to ask questions tonight and provide written comments on the enclosed form.

Project Information

Project Length: 12.7 miles

Proposed Right-of-Way: 824 acres

Displacements: 6 residential, 1 business

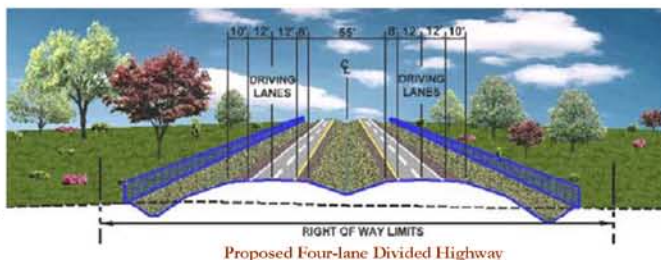
Cost: \$170 million

Funding Status: The current 5 year highway program does not include funding for land acquisition, design or construction of this project.

Project Description

IDOT proposes to construct a four-lane, divided highway bypassing the city of Macomb. The proposed route, which is on new alignment, begins at US 136 west of Macomb, bypasses the city to the north, and ties back into US 136 east of Macomb.

The proposed facility will be a 65 mph, fully access controlled, interstate-type facility. Access onto and off of the bypass can only occur at interchanges. Interchanges are



proposed at US 136 west of Macomb, US 67 north of the city and US 136 east of Macomb.

All roads crossed by the bypass will remain open by either going under or over the proposed facility. These roads include Adams St., CH 14, 950E, Springlake Rd., 1100E, and Tower Rd.

To eliminate the sharp curve at the existing US 136/US 67 connection east of Macomb, US 136 will be shifted slightly to the north. Also on US 136, the existing five-lane roadway will be extended from Bower Rd. through the proposed US 67 interchange tying back into the existing two-lane road approximately 3/4 mile east of the interchange.

Wildlife Crossings

A series of wildlife underpasses have been proposed in order to:

- lessen impacts to animal movements;
- connect environmental corridors;
- and reduce vehicle-animal collisions.

The proposed wildlife underpasses include:

- expansion of the bridges over CH 14 to allow a safer animal crossing offset from the roadway;

- lengthening the bridges at both crossings of the East Fork of the LaMoine River to allow for dry passage under the new highway;

- four single span bridges over ravines;
- four concrete pipes, to

accommodate smaller animals.

Eight-foot-tall fencing will be used in conjunction with the wildlife crossings to direct the animals to the underpasses.

Mitigation

Landlocked parcels purchased will be used for habitat mitigation. In addition, the Illinois Department of Transportation purchased a 164 acre parcel from the city of Macomb in 2000 for use as a mitigation site.



Single Span Bridge Crossing



This parcel is located in the northwest corner of the CH 14/950E intersection. Land not required for the proposed roadway (approximately 147 acres) will be used for habitat enhancement.

Mitigation measures proposed on the landlocked parcels, the mitigation site, and along other portions of the right-of-way will result in the following:

- 87.6 acres of prairie planting
- 41.0 acres of forest restoration
- 151.5 acres of upland forest protection
- 34.8 acres of floodplain forest protection
- 3.2 acres of wetland protection
- 2.1 acres of fence row restoration

Review the Reports

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Draft Design Location Report for this project are available for public review and comment at:



•Macomb Public Library
235 S. Lafayette Street
Macomb, IL

Open: Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday & Saturday from 9 a.m.
to 6 p.m. - Wednesday & Friday
from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

•Western Illinois University
Leslie F. Malpass Library
Western Avenue
Macomb, IL

Open: Monday to Thursday
from 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.
Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday from 12:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement can also be reviewed online at:

www.dot.state.il.us/desenv/env.html



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Corridor protection is a legal process included in the Illinois Statutes as Illinois Highway Code-605 ILCS 5/4-510. It is a process that allows the State to protect right of way needed for future projects from costly and conflicting development.

After a public hearing is held and an alignment is selected, a right-of-way protection map will be developed and recorded with the county recorder. This map will show the right-of-way limits for the proposed Macomb Bypass.

Benefits of Corridor Protection

- ### What does this mean to an affected property owner?

- What is considered an improvement?

- ## Can I sell my house?

- What happens if I have an improvement already in progress?**

- Will I be compensated for being identified on the Corridor Protection Map?**

- We want your comments on the proposed Macomb Bypass.**

[illegible]

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone No. () _____

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Highways / District 4
401 Main Street / Peoria, Illinois / 61602-1111
Telephone 309/671-3335

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Macomb Public Hearing
Comment Summaries
Meeting: December 16, 2003, in Macomb

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Macomb Public Hearing Comment Summaries				General Response	
				Positive	Negative
	Name	Address	Summary of Comments		
Written comments received by IDOT District 4 during the comment period					
1.	Greg & Ronda McKee	13005 N. 1600 Macomb, IL 61455	Interested in finding out if the alignment can be moved south where it crosses their property because it would be less land for state to buy and benefit their recreation area.	X	
2.	Rob Nelson	8521 N. 1250th Rd. Colchester, IL 62326	Worst thing in the world you could do to Macomb. It will turn it into a ghost town.		X
3.	Linda Aylesworth Jani	2043 W. Adams Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the bypass looks good and the sooner we build the better. Wildlife crossings look good. How about the Hill Thistle?	X	
4.	Monica Burkholder	508 S. Madison Macomb, IL 61455	Good Job, Start Building.	X	
5.	Roberta Tyson	185 Jamestown Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Her interest is based on the benefits to Bushnell and Macomb businesses.	X	
6.	Bill Ferree	18 Richard Macomb, IL 61455	Bypass should be constructed to North, South is a menace to Children.	X	
7.	Thomas & Mary Ingrassia	7520 1200 Rd. Colchester, IL 62326	Response in regards to a letter about the South alignment being reconsidered, saying alignment shouldn't be changed because of one persons opposition. His hope is that it not be built at all.		X
8.	Western Illinois University Prof. Roskamp, Dept. of Agriculture	1 University Circle Macomb, IL 61455	Concerned about the alignment cutting across their 60 acres of crop field which is being used for testing fertilizers and soil types. Tests are being monitored by Purdue University and others as well. John Deere all software and hardware for the testing. Would like the field left undisturbed.		X
9.	Daniel D. Voorhis	136 Harmony Lane Macomb, IL 61455	Want access on west side of 336, would also like a cattle crossing.	X	
10.	Teri Nelson	8521 N 1250th Rd Colchester, IL 62326	100 percent against the bypass, reasons being it would make Macomb a ghost town and destroy the environment.		X
11.	Joe Laverdiere	9 Oak Run Macomb, IL 61455	Concerned about his aspirations to be a semi-pro water skier. He uses the Deer Ridge lake for training and is concerned about the lake being cut in half. He is also worried that the land will be ruined for hunting. Wants to know how he will be reimbursed for his loss, and if the corridor could be moved to the west.		X
12.	Donna Thompson	11068 N. 950th Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Appears to be the most economically feasible and most advantageous for traffic flow.	X	
13.	Marvin Hall	20 Richard St. Macomb, IL 61455	Bypass should go North of Macomb.	X	
14.	MacArthur Early Childhood Center Sally Sallee, Principal	235 W. Grant Macomb, IL 61455	Concerned about the South alignment being considered again because it affects three of the four Macomb school districts and long established residential areas. Please consider the safety of the children and build the North Bypass.	X	

Macomb Public Hearing Comment Summaries				General Response	
				Positive	Negative
	Name	Address	Summary of Comments		
15.	John Corson	13320 E. 900th Macomb, IL 61455	Would like an aerial photo of their farm and area immediately surrounding and an estimate of acres being taken from their 40 acre farm.	X	
16.	Frank Goudy	5 Marty Lane Macomb, IL 61455	Supports Northwest Bypass.	X	
17.	W. Garry Johnson	1301 Woodland Trail Macomb, IL 61455	Likes the plan and critter crossings, build soon.	X	
18.	Kathy Jeffries	Macomb, IL 61455	Appreciates all the work put into the bypass, and the efforts taken to include concerns of wildlife and environmental issues.	X	
19.	Cathy Early	1221 W. Jackson St. Macomb, IL 61455	Appreciates all the work put into the bypass, and the efforts taken to include concerns of wildlife and environmental issues. Supports the Northwest.	X	
20.	Stephen R. Axley	12480 N 950 Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Talked to IDOT Representative on the phone, supports the Northwest bypass and believes it is the most fiscally and environmentally responsible. Hopes it is built soon	X	
21.	Macomb Senior High School Michael L. Sartore, Principal	1525 S. Johnson Macomb, IL 61455	Against the south alignment because of concerns for children and the school systems that are effected. Believes we should stand by decision made in 1998 to build the Northwest Bypass.	X	
22.	Virginia Diehl	10065 E 1200th Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Strongly supports the Northwest Bypass	X	
23.	Eric Moe	314 E. Jackson St. Macomb, IL 61455	Funding for Land Acquisition should be implemented if they are going to do corridor protection because it is unfair. Consider building a half interchange at Bower Rd. for the landfill. Will There be an Argyle State Park sign for IL136? Is there any noise mitigation for Spring Lake Park?	X	
24.	Robert Loring	1601 E. Jackson Lot 215 Macomb, IL 61455	Macomb is long overdue for this road improvement. Applauds routing so that fewer homes and businesses are affected.	X	
25.	Allen Nemec	336 S. Lafayette Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the Northern route of the bypass is the best option.	X	
26.	Jackie & Lori Clark	5125 E. Pierce St. Macomb, IL 61455	Like the Northwest bypass because it is closer to the University and businesses of Macomb.	X	
27.	Wayne White	709 S. McArthur Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the South bypass would be cheaper because a section of road in the Northwest was not included in its cost, and that there are too many railroad and river crossings.		X
28.	Bill Butcher	136 James Dr. Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the bypass will bring developers and businesses to Macomb and that we need four lane roads in west central Illinois. His biggest concern is it will not be constructed soon enough.	X	
29.	R. Meixner	1207 Rebecca Ln. Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the proposed bypass is well conceived and should be built soon.	X	

Macomb Public Hearing Comment Summaries				General Response	
				Positive	Negative
	Name	Address	Summary of Comments		
30.	David Wade	220 W. Franklin Monmouth, IL 61462	Likes the wildlife aspects but believes there are several other roads that should be built before the bypass.		X
31.	Bob Henry	24 Grandview Dr. Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the bypass is not worth the destruction of the environment and there is no economic value for Macomb. IF bypass is needed should go South and have more environmental mitigation and bike trails.		X
32.	Donald & Frances Hamilton	15465 Highway 67 Macomb, IL 61455	Wants to know is he will be reimbursed for land taken and if the access roads will be maintained and provisions made for snow removal. Would like a financial adjustment for homeowners effected by isolation.		X
33.	Josh Richardson	204 S. Western Macomb, IL 61455	Would like an interchange at Bower Rd. for the Landfill. Strongly supports the bypass	X	
34.	Ed Fulkerson	100 Woodchuck Ln. Macomb, IL 61455	Supports Northwest Bypass.	X	
35.	Edwin Franks	8495 N 1250th Rd. Colchester, IL 62326	Likes the wildlife crossings and fence, but is appalled that the crossing of 1250 will take out homes and encourages a realignment.	X	
36.	Robert Bland	480 Emory Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Supports Northwest Bypass.	X	
37.	Norma Bland	480 Emory Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Likes that we are away from the schools and hospital.	X	
38.	Arthur Clayton	85 Arlington Dr. Macomb, IL 61455	Supports bypass and he liked the well organized hearing.	X	
39.	Jack Laverdiere	4055 W. Jackson St. Macomb, IL 61455	Believes the South bypass cost estimate is unfair by including the cost of the stretch of US 67 from interchange to US 136, because it should be included in the cost of the Northeast Bypass section. A new environmental assessment of the Deer Ridge Property is needed.		X
40.	Ken Kedzior	6370 E State RT 95 Smithfield, IL 61477	Believes bypass is a waste of taxpayers money and that there are not enough wildlife crossings or protection of environmentally sensitive areas. (Also see oral comment.)		X
41.	Judy Smith	524 W. Carroll Macomb, IL 61455	Her husband owns Smith Airfield and is concerned about the 4-lane coming close to the airport. She wants to make sure its not taken.		X
42.	Patti Pasquesi- Nemec	336 S. Lafayette Macomb, IL 61455	Please get the funding ASAP, we need the roads. Plan is well thought out.	X	
43.	Dana Roy Walker	315 N. Madison St. Macomb, IL 61455	Believes bypass is not needed or practical and cannot be justified in an honest cost-benefit analysis. It destroys farmland and damages wildlife habitat. The NE bypass is the only part he sees that makes sense. (Also see oral comment.)		X
44.	Mick Wissleand, Mayor	232 E. Jackson St. Macomb, IL 61455	Great project, location, and design.	X	
45.	John Maguire	1132 Memorial Macomb, IL 61455	Excellent plan for NW bypass and good use of existing US 67 North into Macomb.	X	

Macomb Public Hearing Comment Summaries				General Response	
				Positive	Negative
	Name	Address	Summary of Comments		
46.	Tim Howe	34 Indian Trail Rd. Macomb, IL 61455	Pleased with Mitigation for wildlife habitat and wildlife crossings. Would like to see natural landscaping along bypass including native grasses and trees. What is planned in terms of landscaping?	X	
47.	Thomas A. Oakley	Box 909 Quincy, IL 62306	Enclosed an editorial he published in the Quincy Herald-Whig that provided readers with a fuller appreciation of the significant benefits resulting from completion of this project.	X	
Oral statements to court reporter during the December 16, 2003 meeting in Macomb					
48	Dana Roy Walker	315 N. Madison St. Macomb, IL 61455	Suggested the time for receipt of comments after the hearing should be 30 days. (Also see written comment.)		X
49	Ken Kedzior	6370 E State RT 95 Smithfield, IL 61477	Believes bypass is a waste of taxpayers money and does not adequately address the needs of wildlife. (Also see written comment.)		X
50	Roberta Moore	200 Cheyenne Rd. Colchester, IL	Requested a detailed map of the project as it passes through the Sue Bagley property.	X	
51	Sarah Wood	604 Memorial Dr. Macomb, IL	Concerned that the bypass would pass within one-half mile of the reservoir that is the major water supply for Macomb.		X